

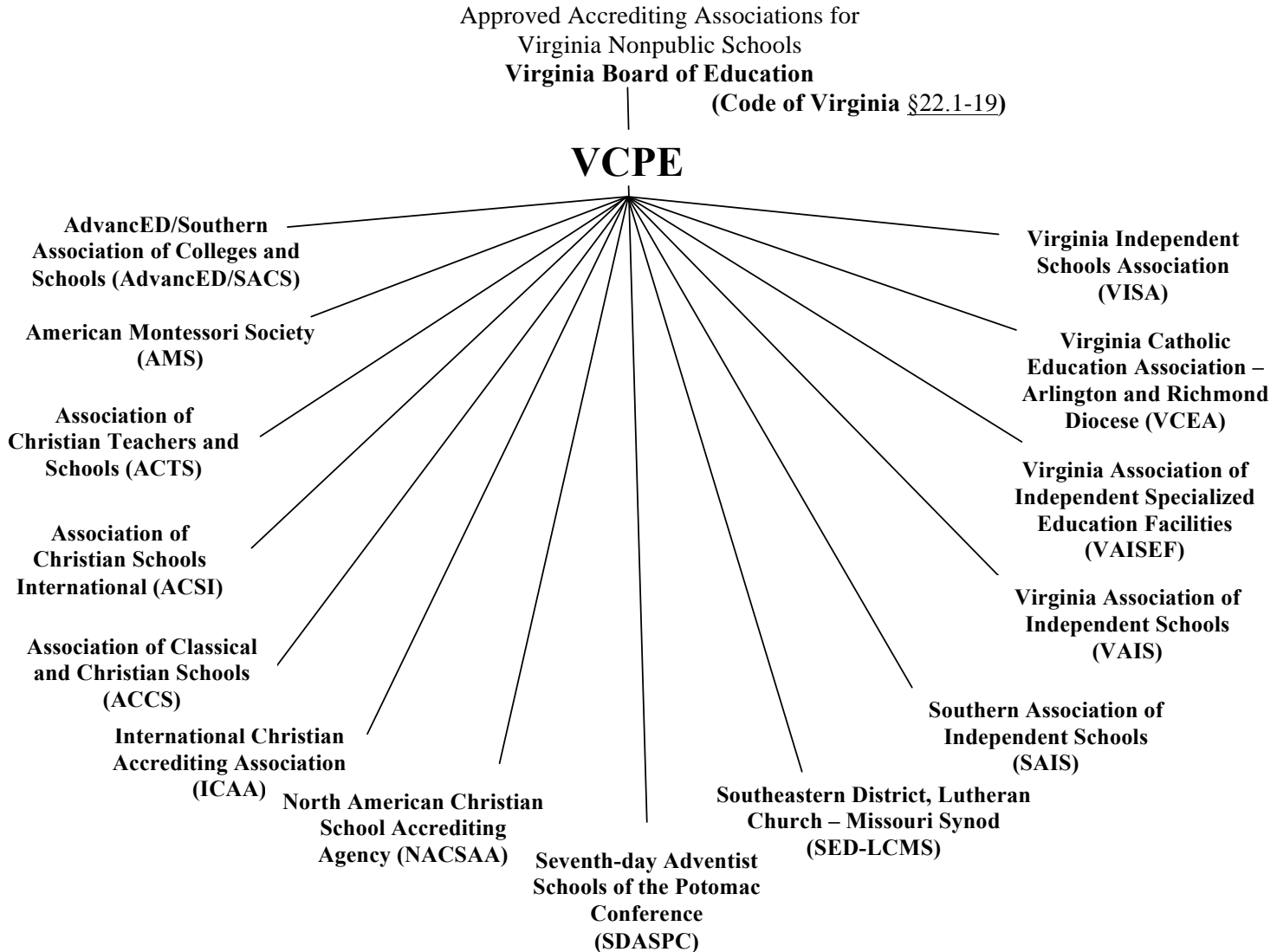


*§22.1-19: Virginia's Unique
Accountability System for
Private School Quality*

History

- 1974** – Founded as state affiliate of CAPE
- 1985** – VBOE transferred accreditation oversight on a two-year trial
- 1987** – VBOE full approval of VCPE accreditation process
- 1993** – VBOE reaffirmed relationship through a resolution
- 2000** – General Assembly passed §22.1-19, granting accreditation oversight of private nursery, preschool, elementary and secondary schools to VCPE as authorized by the Board of Education.

The VCPE Umbrella



VCPE Overview

- Non-profit governed by a Board of Directors representing
 - 14 approved accrediting associations; 1 applicant
 - 3 other school centered associations representing interest areas of state recognized accredited private schools
 - 2 directors-at-large
- 400 state recognized accredited schools and 26 candidates for accreditation
 - 229 or 54% of accredited and candidate schools have PS and/or PK
- 124 other schools with no accreditation oversight but subscribe to VCPE for informational purposes

Accountability:

VCPE PS-12 Peer Review System

- Association accountability
- Association standards include and implement specific policy requirements at the school level
 - *Reviews of Associations take place at schools 3-5 years after initial approval at a school site*
 - *Specific components that may also be reviewed:*
 - *Virtual schools (1 association)*
 - *Systems (2 associations)*
 - *Preschools (12 associations)*
- Individual School Review Cycle includes:
 - *Self-study*
 - *On-site visit; school improvement plans*
 - *Evidence that standards implemented are met*

Accountability:

VCPE PS-12 Whole School Standards

Quality, health and safety standards are addressed through specific whole school requirements including but not limited to:

- Distinct Mission and Educational Philosophy
- Financial Integrity and Governance
- Research Based Development of Curriculum and Learning Environment
- Teacher Qualifications and Professional Development
- Relationships with Family and Community
- Student Services
- Disaster Response Plans
- Provisions for Student Records
- State and Federal Legal Requirements for Health and Safety

VCPE as State Partners

- Collaborative communication with schools
- Shared opportunities for teachers and students
- Shared resources on state policy and other initiatives

VCPE VDOE as Policy Partners

- Transfer of Credit
- Teacher Licensure
- MOPs and Private Virtual Schools
- Federal Programs
 - *Clarity on IDEA and ESEA Provisions*
 - *Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program*
 - *Equitable Services Workgroup Model for USDOE*
 - *Annual Forum Event*
- Virginia Law and Private Schools (*Guidance*)
 - *Legal requirements*
 - *Shared resources and recommendations*



VIRGINIA COUNCIL FOR PRIVATE EDUCATION

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